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Les Races et les Nationalités en Autriche-Hongrie. Par BERTRAND AUERBACH, Professeur à l'Université de Nancy. [Bibliothèque d'Histoire Contemporaine.] Deuxième édition. (Paris: Félix Alcan. 1917. Pp. ix, 492. 10 fr.)

THE first edition of Professor Auerbach's work on the nationalities of Austria-Hungary appeared in 1898. The second edition was ready for the press at the outbreak of the war, and the author's facts and conclusions have lost neither in interest nor in permanent value by events since that time. One still turns to his volume as the most authoritative contribution to the literature of his subject in any language. At home in the fields of history, geography, ethnology, and linguistics, and possessed of a philosophic spirit of inquiry, he discusses political questions without partizan bias. His method of treatment enables him to present the complex aspects of any one nationality without endangering the unity of the subject as a whole.

After a general survey, each nationality reappears under each province or group of provinces. The author thus makes it clear that, for instance, the Ruthenians of Galicia, in their struggles with the Poles, pursue other aims than the Ruthenians of Bukowina, who there find themselves threatened by Rumans. And the Rumans of that province, in their turn, are confronted by other problems than the Rumans of Transylvania. In no other European state is it so necessary for the scientific or political observer to be on his guard in coming to conclusions based on racial and linguistic grounds. Again and again he must ask, what race and what language? Some nationalities, like the Slovene, are an anthropological puzzle. In the matter of language the difficulty may be equally great. The local vocabularies of the Alpine valleys of German Austria tell their own bewildering tale. Not seldom the ethnic or historic origin of a German or Slavic enclave in an Austrian or Hungarian province is lost in obscurity. The Germans of Carniola are becoming steadily denationalized and adopt the Slovene tongue. Anthropology throws little light on their ancestry. Physically and dialectically the German of Carniola differs from his kinsman in neighboring Carinthia. Such considerations have their important bearing on the political questions of the day.

The Italian claim to southern Tyrol is supposed to rest firmly on linguistic, ethnic, and historic grounds. Does the claim justly include the Ladins of the remote valleys of the Adige? Their language links them as closely to the French, Spanish, and Ruman, as it does to the Italian. Ethnically there is doubt as to whether they are descendants of Etruscans, Ligurians, or Celts. The cities of southern Tyrol have not always borne their present physiognomy. Bozen is to all appearances to-day a German town; in the Middle Ages it was chiefly Italian. The Germans appeared in the Trentino first in the thirteenth century. There was little intermingling of nationalities for three centuries. Montaigne, in

1580, described Trent as a town half-divided between two languages. To-day its characteristics are Italian. Bohemia presents still more perplexing problems. In spite of their political antagonisms, Czechs and Teutons bear a baffling physical resemblance, which leaves a doubt as to whether the Slavic or the German type predominates. Again, the persistence of common physical characteristics is in strange contrast to linguistic changes which take place under the eyes of the present generation. The reactionary Princes Schwarzenberg, perhaps the most powerful aristocrats of all Europe, are identifying themselves more and more, linguistically, with the Czechs, though their loyalty to the Hapsburgs is as unaltered as that of the liberal-German Auerspergs. Entire Bohemian cities have changed their linguistic and political complexion in recent days. In 1850 Pilsen was a German town. Of its 15,000 inhabitants 3000 or 4000 were Czechs. To-day, of its 70,000 inhabitants the overwhelming majority are Czechs. Budweis has fared similarly. In Vienna itself the Slavic propaganda, though not expressed in figures, is steadily gaining ground. And the German-speaking population, while bitterly opposed to the Slavs, is far from being in sympathy, alike in peace and war, with the Teutonism of Berlin. Again, anthropologically and linguistically—as far as the spoken language is concerned the differences between the German of Vienna and the German of Berlin are as marked as the resemblances.

Few foreign observers have laid such stress as Professor Auerbach, directly and indirectly, on the need of weighing all the factors entering into a discussion of Magyar chauvinism, the claims of Poles, the aspirations of South Slavs, but for these and similar subjects now agitating the world we must refer the reader to his own pages. In conclusion, we shall only add that it is a rare pleasure to notice the scrupulous accuracy in the spelling of foreign names which distinguishes this notable volume. We have found only one disturbing misprint: the statement (on p. 259) that the Jews of Galicia number one (instead of ten) per cent. of the total population. The only serious defect of the book is the lack of an index.

GUSTAV POLLAK.

Der Kampf um die Vermeidung des Weltkriegs: Randglossen aus zwei Jahrzehnten zu den Zeitereignissen vor der Katastrophe (1892–1900 und 1907–1914). Von Bertha von Suttner. Herausgegeben von Dr. Alfred H. Fried. In two volumes. (Zürich: Orell Füssli. 1917. Pp. xx, 628; xvi, 630. 16 fr.)

FROM October, 1892, to the summer of 1900, and again from January, 1907, until a month before her death in 1914 (June 21), Baroness Bertha von Suttner wrote "from week to week and month to month" a fairly continuous record of political events. She made abstracts of speeches, quoted significant sentences, and fused the story of it all in the setting